

## IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1. (currently amended) A method of firmly joining a sensor workpiece to a body component, in which the sensor workpiece which comprises a sensor material, is positioned on a body component surface region of the body component and is firmly joined to the body component, which said method comprises the steps of:

a) firstly, laminating an adhesive layer which is provided by a cross-linked transfer contact adhesive to a sensor contact surface of the sensor workpiece;

b) then, by using known radiation methods, transferring geometric patterns of a plurality of galleries to be arranged in a laminar fashion to the sensor contact surface by a light beam that penetrates the transfer contact adhesive, which are subsequently introduced into the sensor workpiece and, in the process, are removed congruently with the structures of the adhesive layer introduced into the sensor workpiece;

c) subsequently arranging the adhesive-laminated patterned sensor contact surface on a defined surface region of the body component surface; and

d) subsequently exerting a mechanical pressure on the two joint partners, by which the adhesive-laminated patterned sensor contact surface and the body component surface region are pressed together.

Claim 2. (previously amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein, according to step a), the adhesive layer is implemented with a defined constant layer thickness, which is laminated onto the sensor contact surface.

Claim 3. (currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein step a) is preceded by a step of unrolling the transfer contact adhesive from a transfer roll, which is supplied to a manual laminating roll, and during the step of laminating the adhesive layer, so that after that the lamination of the adhesive layer is implemented

with-said manual laminating roll is used to roll with which the adhesive layer onto the sensor contact surface ~~is rolled on to one side of~~ the sensor workpiece under slight contact pressure in such a way that air bubble inclusions between the sensor contact surface and the transfer contact adhesive are prevented.

Claim 4. (previously amended)      The method as claimed in claim 3, wherein with a step e) the laminating operation is repeated with an electrically operated laminating device, in which the transfer contact adhesive is unrolled from the transfer film with a defined rolling speed to the electrically operated laminating device and is then rolled on under a defined contact pressure in such a way that a substantially homogeneous adhesion between the transfer contact adhesive and the sensor contact surface is achieved.

Claim 5. (previously amended)      The method as claimed in claim 4, wherein with a subsequent step f), the sensor workpiece with the adhesive-laminated patterned sensor contact surface is then subjected to annealing in a drying cabinet, by which means the adhesion is maximized.

Claim 6. (previously amended)      The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein step b) is implemented by using laser lithography in such a way that the geometric patterns of the plurality of galleries are transferred to the adhesive-laminated sensor contact surface directly from a movable laser source by means of a controllable laser beam and are introduced three-dimensionally into the sensor workpiece, or are projected onto the adhesive-laminated sensor contact surface indirectly, with the interposition of masks.

Claim 7. (previously amended)      The method as claimed in claim 6, wherein a geometric pattern of the galleries, is transferred.

Claim 8. (previously amended) The method as claimed in claim 7, wherein a cross section of a respective gallery of the plurality of galleries generally corresponds to that of a body of rotation which ends rectilinearly at the sensor contact surface, which is preferably implemented with a parabolic form whose parabola opens toward the sensor contact surface, or a square or rectangular form, the gallery cross section being cut out from the sensor contact surface so as to extend rectilinearly; wherein the plurality of galleries consists of at least one of a vacuum gallery and an air gallery.

Claim 9. (previously amended) The method as claimed in claim 6, wherein a removal depth of the laser beam passing through the transfer contact adhesive and penetrating into the sensor workpiece is varied on the basis of its intensity and a speed of travel of the laser source.

Claim 10. (previously amended) The method as claimed in claim 6, wherein the laser source is displaced three-dimensionally and the transfer contact adhesive is laminated to the sensor contact surface with a freely selectable layer thickness by means of tracking the laser source to the adhesive application, bringing the laser source up to the adhesive application or both thereof.

Claim 11. (previously amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein before step c) coarse cleaning, fine cleaning or both thereof are carried out on the body component surface.

Claim 12. (currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein step d) is implemented with a clamping device by means of whose external clamping of the two joint partners, a defined contact pressure is transferred to the contact surfaces of each of the two joint partners, whose front faces are opposite one another, and to the adhesive layer layered in between, in such a way that an even contact of the sensor

workpiece is loaded uniformly over the sensor ~~its~~-contact surface of the sensor workpiece.

Claim 13. (original) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein before step d) the plurality of galleries are closed in an airtight manner on one side and, on the other side, are connected to a vacuum device and a vacuum is then generated within the plurality of galleries.

Claim 14. (previously amended) The method as claimed in claim 13, wherein, by using the clamping device and the vacuum device, the contact pressure is increased up to a defined vacuum, which is maintained for at least ten minutes.

Claim 15. (currently amended) A vacuum sensor for Structural Health Monitoring, comprising a body component, at which a sensor workpiece is positioned within a defined region of an even surface region of the body component and is firmly joined to the body component, ~~which-said~~ sensor workpiece is provided with an adhesive layer laminated onto an even contact surface of the sensor workpiece and ~~which-said~~ adhesive layer is arranged on the contact surface so as to be distributed substantially homogeneously, wherein geometric patterns of a plurality of galleries, which are arranged lying beside one another in a laminar fashion, are introduced into the sensor workpiece and are removed congruently with ~~the a~~ a plurality of structures of the adhesive layer introduced into the adhesive-laminated sensor workpiece.

Claim 16. (previously amended) The vacuum sensor as claimed in claim 15, wherein a respective gallery of the plurality of galleries is implemented with a removal depth which is limited by a body component surface region of the body component and is continued into the sensor workpiece.

Claim 17. (previously amended) The vacuum sensor as claimed in claim 15, wherein the plurality of galleries are machined into the sensor workstation with a different type of geometric configuration and a different gallery cross section.

Claim 18. (previously amended) The vacuum sensor as claimed in claim 15, wherein the plurality of galleries are machined into the sensor workpiece with a substantially uniform geometric configuration and with a substantially uniform gallery cross section.

Claim 19. (currently amended) The vacuum sensor as claimed in claim 18, wherein the substantially uniform gallery cross section is implemented with a parabolic cross-sectional form, an opening of the parabola ending with the contact surface of the sensor ~~sensor-workpiece~~.

Claim 20. (previously amended) The vacuum sensor as claimed in claim 18, wherein the substantially uniform gallery cross section is implemented with a triangular cross-sectional form, an opening of the triangle, which is arranged opposite an angle formed by two sides of the triangle, ending with the sensor contact surface of the sensor workpiece.

Claim 21. (currently amended) The vacuum sensor as claimed in claim 20, wherein the triangular cross-sectional form is implemented with a ~~the~~ configuration of an equilateral triangle.

Claim 22. (previously amended) The vacuum sensor as claimed in claim 15, wherein the substantially uniform gallery cross section is implemented with a trapezoidal cross-sectional form, an opening of the trapezium, which is arranged opposite the top surface of the trapezium, ending with the contact surface of the sensor workpiece.

Claim 23. (previously amended) The vacuum sensor as claimed in claim 17, wherein a geometric configuration of a respective gallery of the plurality of galleries is machined into the sensor workpiece with a non-square or non-rectangular gallery cross section which is comparable with a non-cylindrical longitudinal section.

Claim 24. (previously amended) The vacuum sensor as claimed in claim 23, wherein a three-dimensionally variable gallery cross section is machined into the sensor workpiece.

Claim 25. (previously amended) The vacuum sensor as claimed in claim 15, wherein the plurality of galleries which are removed congruently from the sensor workpiece and the adhesive layer are implemented by using known radiation methods, preferably with the aid of laser lithography, by using a light beam, preferably a laser beam.

Claim 26. (previously amended) The vacuum sensor as claimed in claim 15, wherein, by using the sensor workpiece, which is box-like or layer-like and whose sensor contact surface is square or rectangular, and the adhesive layer, whose adhesive surface is square or rectangular and is layered substantially congruently with the contact surface of the sensor workpiece, a layer structure is implemented in which a first layer thickness of the sensor workpiece is greater than a second layer thickness of the adhesive layer.

Claim 27. (currently amended) The vacuum sensor as claimed in claim 26, wherein account is taken of an arrangement of the plurality of galleries with a gallery architecture according to which a course of a respective gallery of the plurality of galleries is implemented substantially ~~essentially~~-parallel with the sides or the longitudinal or broad side or extending transversely with respect to the congruently located layers of the layer structure, without gallery crossing.

Claim 28. (previously amended) The vacuum sensor as claimed in claim 26, wherein the adhesive layer is implemented substantially uniformly and with a low layer thickness.

Claim 29. (previously amended) The vacuum sensor as claimed in claim 28, wherein the second layer thickness of the adhesive layer is implemented with a thin layer application.

Claim 30. (previously amended) The vacuum sensor as claimed in claim 28, wherein the adhesive layer is implemented with a transfer contact adhesive that can be laminated.

Claim 31. (previously amended) The vacuum sensor as claimed in claim 30, wherein the adhesive layer is implemented with a cross-linked transfer contact adhesive with a low tendency to creep, which is capable of implementing adhesion between the contact surface of the sensor workpiece and the body component surface region of the body component.

Claim 32. (previously amended) The vacuum sensor as claimed in claim 30, wherein the transfer contact adhesive is adapted for developing, on the contact surfaces of the sensor contact surface and of the body component surface region, a dynamic-mechanical and homogeneous adhesion which is implemented with an adhesive force of 20 – 50 N/25 mm.

Claim 33. (previously amended) The vacuum sensor as claimed in claim 30, wherein the transfer contact adhesive is an adhesive which can be unrolled from a transfer roll with a defined and constant second layer thickness and is suitable for being nondetachably joined to the body component surface region of the body component, which is implemented under the influence of a defined and reproducible contact pressure acting on the two joint partners.

Claim 34. (previously amended) The vacuum sensor as claimed in claim 30, wherein the contact adhesive is preferably an acrylate contact adhesive, which is used with a second layer thickness of about 25  $\mu\text{m}$ .

Claim 35. (previously amended) The vacuum sensor as claimed in claim 31, wherein the sensor material of the sensor workpiece is a polymer material.

Claim 36. (original) The vacuum sensor as claimed in claim 35, wherein the polymer material is preferably implemented with a polyimide.

Claim 37. (original) The vacuum sensor as claimed in claim 36, wherein the polyimide is a Kapton film, which is implemented with a film thickness of about 125  $\mu\text{m}$ .

Claim 38. (previously amended) The vacuum sensor as claimed in claim 25, wherein the laser beam used is a pulsed excimer laser beam, which is aimed at the adhesive-laminated sensor workpiece with a pulse energy of 400 mJ.

Claim 39. (previously amended) The vacuum sensor as claimed in claim 38, wherein the laser beam is set on the sensor contact surface at various angles of attack, preferably vertically on the sensor contact surface.

Claim 40. (previously amended) The vacuum sensor as claimed in claim 39, wherein the angle of attack is based on an angular range from  $-45^\circ$  to  $+45^\circ$  which the laser beam forms with the contact surface.

Claim 41. (previously amended) The vacuum sensor as claimed in claim 30, wherein the transfer adhesive of the adhesive layer has the capability under the influence of the penetrating light beam, of cutting out the transfer contact adhesive with the passage



cross section of the light beam at the point of passage of the light over the second layer thickness of the transfer adhesive as a result of residue-free adhesive evaporation without microscopic adhesive residue.

Claim 42. (previously amended) The vacuum sensor as claimed in claim 18, wherein the gallery depth of those galleries of substantially uniform geometric configuration, correlating with the removal depth, is implemented with about 100  $\mu\text{m}$ , which is subsumed by the layer thickness of the adhesive layer and which is determined within the depth of the relevant gallery removed from the sensor workpiece.

Claim 43. (previously amended) The vacuum sensor as claimed in claim 42, wherein the depth of the relevant gallery removed within the sensor workpiece is implemented with 75  $\mu\text{m}$ .

Claim 44. (previously amended) The vacuum sensor as claimed in claim 15, wherein ~~a the~~ material of the body component is an appropriate metal, a metal laminate or a composite material.

Claim 45. (currently amended) The vacuum sensor as claimed in claim 44, wherein surfaces of the sensor ~~metallie~~-workpiece are coated with a layer of bonding primer or ink.

Claim 46. (original) The vacuum sensor of claim 15, wherein the vacuum sensor is a vacuum sensor application.

Claim 47. (previously amended) A vacuum sensor application for Structural Health Monitoring, comprising a body component, on which a sensor workpiece, to which an adhesive layer is laminated onto an even sensor contact surface and is placed thereon so as to be distributed homogeneously, is positioned within a defined region of an even

body component surface and is nondetachably joined to the body component, wherein geometric patterns of a plurality of first galleries of substantially uniform configuration with a first gallery cross section and a first removal depth, which are arranged lying beside one another in a laminar fashion, and the geometric patterns of a plurality of second galleries of uniform configuration with a second gallery cross section and a second removal depth are introduced into the sensor workpiece, the first and second galleries in each case being removed along a removal axis which extends from a sensor workpiece surface, and the first removal depth being greater than the second removal depth and the second gallery cross section being greater than the first gallery cross section, and the geometric pattern of the individual second gallery, in each case with the structure of the adhesive layer introduced into the adhesive-laminated sensor workpiece, being removed along said removal axis with a third removal depth which corresponds to a ~~the~~ thickness of the adhesive layer.

Claim 48. (currently amended) A vacuum sensor application for Structural Health Monitoring, comprising a body component, on which a sensor workpiece, to which an adhesive layer is laminated onto an even sensor contact surface and is placed thereon so as to be distributed homogeneously, is positioned within a defined region of an even body component surface and is nondetachably joined to the body component, wherein ~~the geometric patterns of a plurality of first galleries of uniform configuration with a first gallery cross section and a first removal depth, which are arranged lying beside one another in a laminar fashion,~~ have geometric patterns which are introduced into the sensor workpiece, the first galleries in each case being removed along a removal axis extending from a sensor workpiece surface, and the geometric pattern of the individual first gallery, in each case with the structure introduced into the adhesive-laminated sensor workpiece, being removed in a stepped manner along said removal axis with a third removal depth, which corresponds to a ~~the~~ thickness of the adhesive layer, and a third gallery cross section, the third removal depth being less than or equal to or greater

than the first removal depth, and the third gallery cross section being greater than the first gallery cross section.